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FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4918
INFO RUCNARF/ASEAN REGIONAL FORUM COLLECTIVE IMMEDIATE
RUEHJA/AMEMBASSY JAKARTA IMMEDIATE 4988
RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE 1399
RUEHFR/AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE 1135
RUEHSV/AMEMBASSY SUVA IMMEDIATE 1120
RUEHTC/AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE IMMEDIATE 2299
RUEHVI/AMEMBASSY VIENNA IMMEDIATE 0263
RUEHBN/AMCONSUL MELBOURNE IMMEDIATE 2593
RUEHPT/AMCONSUL PERTH IMMEDIATE 1333
RUEHJA/AMCONSUL SURABAYA IMMEDIATE 0237
RUEHDN/AMCONSUL SYDNEY IMMEDIATE 0501
RHMFIUU/HQ USCENTCOM MACDILL AFB FL IMMEDIATE
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE
RHHMUNA/CDR USPACOM HONOLULU HI IMMEDIATE
RUEHBS/USEU BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE
RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE 1769
RHHMUNS/COMSOPAC HONOLULU HI IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 CANBERRA 000810

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E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: [AEMR](#) [EAID](#) [PGOV](#) [PREF](#) [PREL](#) [AS](#) [ID](#)
SUBJECT: [INDONESIAN EARTHQUAKE](#): AUSTRALIAN AID UPDATE

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SUMMARY

1. (U) Australia has provided AUS\$7.5 million (US\$5.7 million) in assistance in response to the May 27 earthquake in Indonesia to date. The lead agency for the Australian disaster relief effort, AusAID, had sent or was preparing to send more than 80 disaster, logistics and relief specialists to affected areas in Yogyakarta and Central Java, as of May 31, including two medical teams, a critical infrastructure team and an essential services team, along with a coordinate team. AusAID has prioritized the most urgent needs as medical supplies, medical and surgical support, food, water and sanitation, along with Indonesian Government-identified needs for antibiotics, blankets, tents, and food for children. End Summary.

EARTHQUAKE DAMAGE ASSESSMENT

2. (U) AusAID, the Australian Government aid agency that has the lead in coordinating Australia's response to the May 27 Indonesian earthquake, provided a May 31 update of Australia's response to the disaster. AusAID assessed that the earthquake affected all districts of Yogyakarta and four districts of Central Java, with Bantul District of Yogyakarta and Klaten District of Central Java the hardest hit areas. The south and center of Yogyakarta city sustained significant structural damage. In its report, AusAID noted that electricity had been restored in most of the affected areas, and the Yogyakarta airport had reopened, which would facilitate emergency response efforts. The report updated the official death toll to 5,428 people, with up to 8,000 injured and varying reports of between 100,000 and 200,000 left homeless. It noted that hospital and medical facilities had been overwhelmed.

AUSTRALIAN RESPONSE

¶3. (U) According to AusAID, on May 30 Australia increased to AUS\$7.5 million (US\$5.7 million) its commitment for critical humanitarian assistance to survivors of the earthquake. This incorporated AUS\$500,000 for the Indonesian Red Cross for medical teams, field hospitals, tents for displaced persons, field kitchens, medical supplies and equipment; and AUS\$200,000 for orthopedic equipment. The total aid package of AUS\$7.5 million included:

- \$2.5 million for medical teams, equipment and consumables;
- \$0.5 million for engineering teams;
- \$4 million through UN and non-government organisations. This included assistance for emergency shelter and kitchens to feed quake victims;
- \$0.5 million for other needs as they were identified.

¶4. (U) AusAID reported that a 27-person Australian medical team, led by an AusAID representative and comprising surgeons, anesthetists, operating staff, disaster medicine specialists and logisticians, arrived in Yogyakarta from Australia on May 31, accompanied by 12 tons of medical equipment and supplies. Previously, on May 30, Australia had mobilized a 15-member Indonesia-based medical team to commence emergency assessments and operations, and was providing medical, hospital and relief supplies, including AUS\$200,00 of orthopedic instruments.

¶5. (U) The Australian Government planned to send more than 80 disaster experts to Yogyakarta as part of an expanded emergency response to Saturday's earthquake, including critical infrastructure and essential needs teams, comprising

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engineers, electricians, water and sanitation experts, pharmacists, and logisticians.

¶6. (U) AusAID staff, who had been on the ground in the affected areas since Saturday, were assessing needs, coordinating medical and other assistance and liaising with local authorities and the local and international media. A nine-person AusAID advance deployment had arrived in Yogyakarta, including an Australian logistical adviser to assist the Government agencies in Yogyakarta.

¶7. (U) An Australian consular response team had set up in the Yogyakarta Hyatt Hotel to assist Australian citizens. AusAID reported that all Australians were accounted for, with no casualties reported, and thus the consular role was winding down.

¶9. (U) Australia was providing funds and personnel through international aid agencies for relief needs, including funding to Muhammadiyah, an Indonesian NGO, as well as Australian NGOs and United Nations agencies to support medical and feeding programs in the worst affected areas.

URGENT NEEDS

¶10. (U) AusAID had identified as the most urgent needs medical supplies, medical and surgical support, food and non-food items, water and sanitation. It noted that the Indonesian Government had encouraged international assistance, and had indicated a preference for assistance in the form of antibiotics, food for children, blankets and tents.

INTERNATIONAL RESPONSES AS REPORTED BY AUSAID

¶11. (U) According to the AusAID report, several international organizations had responded to the earthquake:

- OCHA had established an Information Center within the

Government Office in Bantul.

- A United Nations Disaster Assessment and Coordination (UNDAC) team of disaster management professionals had been deployed.
- The International Federation of the Red Cross (IFRC), in conjunction with the Indonesian Red Cross (PMI) had set up a field hospital in Bantul. They were also delivering food, water, tents, and tarpaulins and transporting mobile medical teams where roads were passable.
- WHO was assisting in establishing a disease surveillance system and measles vaccination program.
- UNICEF had established a WATSAN office in Yogyakarta and was distributing water.
- WFP had mobilized relief staff and was distributing fortified biscuits and noodles.
- Oxfam was on the ground, providing clean water and essential supplies.
- World Vision planned to distribute essential non-food items, including blankets, tarpaulins for shelter, clothing and medical supplies.

STANTON